

# Securing health through food systems: An initiative of the nutrition consortium of the National Health Research Institutes in Taiwan and Asia Pacific regional partners as a network

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#### Abstract:

There are growing concerns about the health impacts of climate change with ecosystem degradation and global warming, finite reserves of non-renewable energy, water shortages in food-producing regions, limits to contemporary agriculture with its dependence on exhaustible petrochemical nitrogen and rock phosphate fertilizers, and failure of the global financial system. To date, health security has meant attention to safe environments especially water, sanitation and waste disposal; and access to health care and its affordability. Its dependency on food security (safety, sufficiency, sustainability, and satisfaction which requires diversity and quality) has been under-estimated because the current and imminent risks have increased and extended to more populations, because these may be less tractable and because the nature, extent and dynamics of nutritionally-related health are better appreciated. As a step towards more collaborative food and health systems, the National Health Research Institutes in Taiwan has created an interdisciplinary Nutrition Consortium (NC) with research and policy agendas. The NC held a food in Health Security (FIHS) in the Asia Pacific region roundtable in conjunction with the World Vegetable Center based in Tainan, supported by the National Science Council and Academia Sinica in Taiwan and the Australian Academies of Science and of Science Technology and Engineering, August 2-5th 2009 in Taiwan. A FIHS Network is being established to further the initiative. It should form part of the broader Human Security agenda.

Source: http://apjcn.nhri.org.tw/server/APJCN/18/4/472.pdf

#### **Resource Description**

#### Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience: M

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

# Early Warning System:

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other

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elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Temperature

Food/Water Security: Food Access/Distribution

**Temperature:** Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: M

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Region

Other Asian Region: Asia Pacific Region

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Intervention: M

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Resource Type: M

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

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### Resilience: M

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified